Research Notes: Roseanna Sheridan Farley Devine

Research Overview:
Roseanna Sheridan Farley Devine is well documented in the United States, but her life in Ireland remains unknown. She appears in records under two surnames—first as Roseanna Farley and later as Roseanna Devine—as a wife, a widow, and the mother of children from two marriages. Her movements and family life in New Jersey and Iowa can be traced with some continuity, yet no records have been identified that name her parents, siblings, or townland of origin in Ireland.

Roseanna's documented life begins after her first marriage to Mr. Farley and the birth of their son, Owen. When or with whom she emigrated from Ireland is unknown, and no records place her in the United States before her first marriage. By 1848, she was living in Morris County, New Jersey, where she married Patrick Devine and began a second family. After Patrick died in Iowa, Roseanna remained within the Devine household, living with her brother-in-law, John Devine, and her children in Delaware County. She can be followed through successive census entries into the 1870s, even as the first decades of her life remain undocumented.

Family tradition adds another layer of complexity to Roseanna's origins. An obituary for her son states that Roseanna Sheridan was an aunt of General Philip Sheridan, a claim that is not correct as written. Even so, it suggests a perceived connection to the Sheridan family that may reflect a real, though undocumented, relationship. DNA evidence also points toward an origin in County Cavan, where clustered matches place Roseanna or her ancestors in the same geographic area as families associated with the general's Sheridan line. No common ancestral couple has yet been identified, and the relationship—if any—remains unresolved.

Speculative Narrative:
Intentionally left empty

Time Line:

1811 - Birth in Ireland (possibly County Cavan).

Roseanna Sheridan was born about 1811 in Ireland. Surviving records in County Cavan do not extend far enough back to document her birth or identify her parents, making direct evidence of her family of origin unlikely. An obituary for her son later claimed that Roseanna was an aunt of General Philip Sheridan, a statement that is not correct as written. The claim is noted because DNA matches associated with Roseanna's descendants point to ancestral families living within 7 kilometers of the general's family in County Cavan, indicating a very close geographic association, although no direct relationship has been identified.

1843 - Marriage to Owen Farley (- 1847), possibly in Ireland.[1]

1844 - Birth of son Owen Farley (1844 - 1889) possibly in Ireland.[2]

1847 - Death of husband Owen Farley (- 1847), possibly at Rockaway, Morris, New Jersey.[3]

12 Aug 1848 - Marriage to Patrick Devine (1803 - 1859) at Madison, Morris, New Jersey.[4]

Witnesses: Peter Sheridan and Margaret Smith. "Marriage of Patrick Devine and Rosanna Farrally, 12 August 1848 by B.J. McQuaid, Catholic Pater at Madison."

The marriage of Patrick Devine and Roseanna Farrally on 12 August 1848 in Madison, Morris County, New Jersey, was witnessed by Peter Sheridan and Margaret Smith. The appearance of a Sheridan as a witness is significant and suggests a possible family connection to Roseanna, though no relationship

[1] Marriage to Owen Farley

[2] "Iowa, Grand Army of the Republic Membership Records, 1861-1949", , *FamilySearch* (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:Q23N-98CX: Tue Jul 09 00:22:54 UTC 2024), Entry for Owen Farley, 1861-1949.

[3] Death of husband Owen Farley

[4] "New Jersey Marriages, 1678-1985", , *FamilySearch* (https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:FZ52-FY5: 20 January 2020), Patrick Divine, 1848

has yet been established. Patrick Devine was approximately forty-five years old at the time of the marriage, raising the possibility of an earlier marriage or children, but no evidence has been found to support this.

12 Sep 1849 - Birth of son William Henry Devine (1849 - 1916) at Rockaway, Morris, New Jersey.[5]

1850 - US Census at Rockaway, Morris, New Jersey.[6]
Patrick Darine, 40
Roseanna Darine, 34
Owen Darine, 6
William Devine, 1

12 Feb 1853 - Birth of daughter Bridget Devine (1853 - 1863) at Rockaway, Morris, New Jersey.[7]

1 Sep 1854 - Birth of daughter Rosanna Devine (1849 - 1916) at Rockaway, Morris, New Jersey.[8]

28 Dec 1859 - Death of husband Patrick Devine (1803 - 1859) at Monticello, Jones, Iowa.[9]

1856 - Iowa State Census at Monticello, Jones, Iowa.[10]
Patrick Devine, 53

[5] "Find a Grave Index," database, *FamilySearch* (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QVK4-3KSV: 11 January 2022), William Henry Devine, ; Burial, El Reno, Canadian, Oklahoma, United States of America, El Reno Cemetery; citing record ID 33272962, *Find a Grave*, http://www.findagrave.com.

[6] 1850 United States Federal Census; Year: 1850; Census Place: Rockaway, Morris, New Jersey; Roll: M432_459; Page: 335A; Image:

[7] "New Jersey Births and Christenings, 1660-1980", , *FamilySearch* (https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:FZQX-W89: 18 January 2020), Bridget Devine, 1853.

[8] "New Jersey Births and Christenings, 1660-1980", , *FamilySearch* (https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:FZQX-796: 18 January 2020), Rosanna Devine, 1854.

[9] "Find a Grave Index," database, *FamilySearch* (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QV26-76MS : 10 June 2020), Patrick Devine, 1859; Burial, , ; citing record ID , *Find a Grave*, http://www.findagrave.com.

[10] 1856 - Iowa State Census

1860 - US Census at Delhi, Delaware, Iowa.[11]
John Devine, 52
Rosanna Devine, 49
John Devine, 17
Owen Devine, 14
William Devine, 11
Bridget Devine, 8
Rosina Devine, 6

9 Sep 1863 - Death of daughter Bridget Devine (1853 - 1863) at Delhi, Delaware, Iowa.[12]

1870 - US Census at Delhi, Delaware, Iowa.[13]
Rosanna Devine, 49
William Devine
Rosa Devine, 15
Owen Farley, 24

23 Nov 1875 - Death at Hopkinton, Delaware, Iowa.[14]
Apr - Burial at Castle Grove Catholic Cemetery at Monticello, Jones, Iowa.[15]

Roseanna Sheridan Farley Devine died in 1875 and was buried at Castle Grove Catholic Cemetery in Monticello, Iowa, alongside her second husband, Patrick Devine, and their daughter, Bridget. Her later life can be traced through family relationships, census records, and place, even as her origins in Ireland remain unknown.

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[11] Year: 1860; Census Place: Delhi, Delaware, Iowa; Roll: ; Page: ; Image: Birth date: abt 1811 Birth place: Ireland Residence date: 1860 Residence place: Delhi, Delaware, Iowa, United States

[12] "Find a Grave Index," database, *FamilySearch* (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QV26-76M9 : 10 June 2020), Bridget Devine, 1863; Burial, , ; citing record ID , *Find a Grave*, http://www.findagrave.com.

[13] 1870 United States Federal Census. Birth date: abt 1812 Birth place: Ireland Residence date: 1870 Residence place: Delhi, Delaware, Iowa, United States

[14] Death record

[15] "Find a Grave Index," database, *FamilySearch* (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QVKK-739S : 22 July 2020), Rose, 1875; Burial, , ; citing record ID, *Find a Grave*, http://www.findagrave.com.

DNA Research Related to Roseanna Sheridan

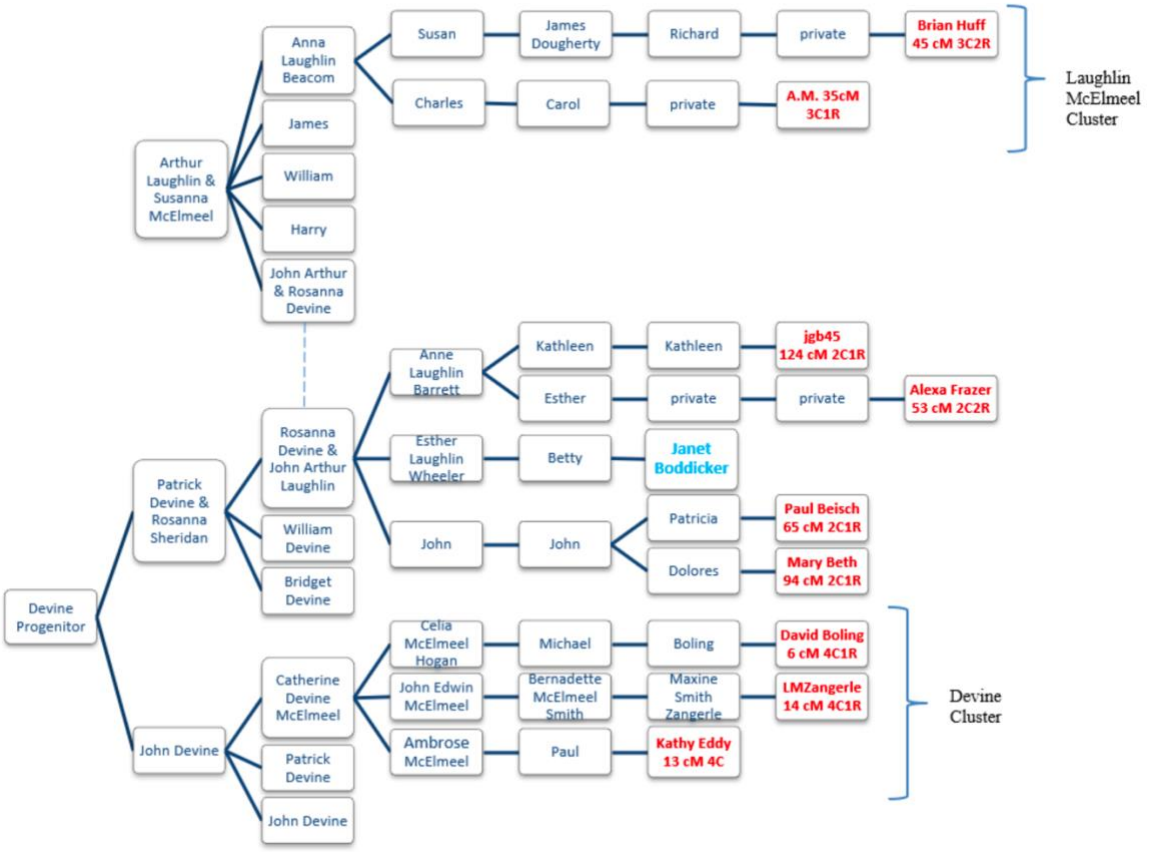
A group of DNA matches suggests that Rose or her ancestors may be from County Cavan. Still, the lack of records from that period makes it difficult to identify a common ancestral couple. Further research is needed on a DNA cluster connected to her son, Owen Farley.

Additionally, locate any missing records highlighted in red on the research timeline.

Who were the parents of brothers Patrick and John Devine?
According to previous research:
• Patrick Devine was born about 1803 in Ireland and died on 28 December 1859 in Monticello, Jones County, Iowa. He married Rosanna Sheridan on 12 August 1848 in Madison, Morris County, New Jersey. After Patrick died, Rosanna lived in the household of her brother-in-law John Devine with her children.
• John Devine was born about 1806 in Ireland, possibly in County Kildare, and died on 21 November 1865 in Delaware County, Iowa. He married Mary Fox on 26 February 1835 in Balyna Catholic parish, County Kildare. They had four children in the townlands of Kilmore and Clonagh.
• No Devine or Fox families appear to be in the Kilmore and Clonagh area before John's marriage in 1835. The families may have moved to the area to work on the Royal Canal.
• It is possible the Devine family was originally from County Meath or another nearby area.

We could not learn more about your Devine ancestors but did identify a family cluster that is probably related in some way to Rosanna Sheridan, the wife of Patrick Devine

This research uses AncestryDNA matches to learn more about the Devine family and its associated lines. In addition to you and your siblings, you have tested your cousin Paul Beisch and your second cousin, Janet Boddicker, once removed. Because Janet is an older generation than you, she will share more DNA in common with potential Devine matches, and we will focus on her DNA results.
You have identified different groups of matches descending from different branches of the greater Devine family tree. These include the Laughlin McElmeel Cluster and the Devine Cluster. To better understand the overall Devine tree, we created the following visual representation and identified some matches in the different groups. Janet Boddicker is shown in blue, and her matches in red, with the number of centimorgans in common and their relationship.



Matches in the Laughlin McElmeel Cluster are not very useful in determining the parents of Patrick and John Devine, as these matches do not carry Devine DNA.

However, it is important to identify matches in this cluster to help narrow down where different DNA is coming from. They can also help exclude certain lines.

We could not learn more about your Devine ancestors but did identify a family cluster that is probably related in some way to Rosanna Sheridan, Patrick Devine's wife. This cluster includes a Cooney/Dunn family and their Clarke and Lynch descendants.

This family has roots in Carrickacroman townland in Larah parish, County Cavan.

The Devine Cluster has more potential to answer your research question. Unfortunately, Janet's current matches in this group either have no trees or trees with little information. Future testers may have more information.

We did identify one interesting DNA match. This was Janet's match with Christopher Jordan. Their match suggests a relationship between him and the descendants of Patrick Devine and Rosanna Sheridan.

• Janet and Christopher share 40 cM of DNA in common.
• Christopher and Janet have a shared DNA match with Alexa Frazier.
• The test for Paul Beisch also shares DNA with Christopher Jordan but only six cM.
• Your DNA test does not match that of Christopher Jordan. However, according to Christopher's tree and your notes, Christopher Jordan is the son of Mary Philomena Cooney and Dennis Jordan and the grandson of James Cooney and Elizabeth Traynor. Further research shows that James Cooney was the son of James Cooney and Ellen Corcoran and the grandson of Patrick Cooney and Elizabeth Dunn of Carrickacroman townland, Larah parish, County Cavan.
Patrick Cooney and Elizabeth Dunn also had the following children, all born in Carrickacroman:1
• Thomas Cooney was born on 2 June 1865.
• Patrick Cooney was born on 15 February 1867.
• Eliza Cooney was born on 6 March 1869.
• Susan Cooney was born on 13 November 1870.
James Cooney, son of Patrick Cooney of Carrickacroman, married Ellen Corcoran, daughter of John Corcoran, of Drumauna, on 12 November 1894 in Drung Catholic parish, County Cavan.
2 No civil marriage record was found. James and Ellen had the following children, all born in Carrickacroman:
3
• Patrick Joseph baptized on 25 November 1895 with sponsors Owen Lynch and Maggie Corcoran.
• Terence Cooney baptized on 26 July 1897 with sponsors Thomas Cooney and Rose Cooney.
• John Cooney baptized on 3 July 1898 with sponsors Patrick Cooney and Annie Brady.
• Eliza Cooney baptized on 27 November 1900 with sponsors Owen Cooney and Maggie Corcoran.
• James Cooney baptized on 24 April 1902 with sponsors Patrick Boylan and Lizzie Brady. His baptism included the following note: Married on 11 June 1926 to
Elizabeth Traynor in Larah Roman Catholic Church by P. Gilcreest Parish Priest.
• Eugene Cooney baptized on 14 May 1904 with sponsors Phil McCabe and Susan Boylan.
• Maggie Cooney born circa 1907.4
1 "Civil Records," *IrishGenealogy.ie* (https://civilrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/), Cooney births, 1864-1875, Cootehill
district.

2 *RootsIreland.ie* (http://ifhf.rootsireland.ie/view_detail.php?recordid=571601&type=mch&recordCentre=cavan), Church Marriage Record for James Cooney and Ellen Corcoran, 12 Nov 1894, Drung, County Cavan. **[Page 10]**
3 *RootsIreland.ie* (https://rootsireland.ie/), baptism records for children of James Cooney and Ellen Corcoran, 1894-1905, Larah, County Cavan. Only transcriptions available.
4 "1911 Census of Ireland," *The National Archives of Ireland* (http://census.nationalarchives.ie/pages/1911/Cavan/Larah_South/Carrickacroman/345847/), James Cooney family in house 56 in Carrickacroman, Larah South, Cavan.

3• Michael Cooney born circa 1909.5
According to census records, Ellen (Corcoran) Cooney was born circa 1874 to 1875 in County Cavan.
6 Her marriage was held in the Drung Catholic parish bordering the Larah Catholic parish. Drung Catholic parish records began in 1847 but contained no baptism for Ellen Corcoran. It is possible Ellen was not born in Drumauna townland but in another parish, such as Larah, where records do not begin earlier enough to contain her baptism. We could find no civil birth record for Ellen, but her parents may have neglected to register it.

James Cooney, son of Patrick Cooney and Elizabeth Dunn, was born circa 1866 to 1871in County Cavan according to census records.7 However, it is possible he was born five or more years before 1866 as the Irish were often unsure of their exact age.
Carrickacroman is located in the Civil and Catholic parish of Larah. Unfortunately, Larah Catholic parish records do not begin until 1876. If James Cooney was born in Carrickacroman there is no church baptism record for him. Civil registration began in 1864 but no civil birth record was found. This makes it seem likely that James was born circa 1860 to 1864 in Carrickacroman. This fits with the births of his siblings, beginning with Thomas in 1865.

James' sister Eliza [Elizabeth] married Owen Lynch, and their daughter Elizabeth Lynch married Hugh Donald Clarke, son of Hugh Clarke and Margaret McCabe, according to information in the Clarke Family Tree maintained by Heidi Clarke. Heidi Clarke is Michael Clarke's wife. Michael Clarke, his father Gerald Clarke, and Michael's probable children A.C. [Andrew Clarke?] and C.C. [Charlotte Clarke?] are all DNA matches with

Janet Boddicker. Gerald Clarke's father, Hugh Donald Clarke, is also Janet's DNA match. Some of these Clarke family connections can be found in the obituaries of Hugh Donald and Gerald Clark.

"Hugh Clarke, 95, of Wilton, CT, husband of the late Elizabeth Lynch Clarke, died Thursday at home. Born November 3, 1904, in Coote Hill County Cavin, Ireland, he was the son of the late Hugh and Margaret McCabe Clarke. Before moving to Wilton fourteen years ago, Mr. Clarke had been a fifty-two-year resident of Port Chester, NY.

Survivors include two sons: Donald Clarke of Crossville, TN, and Jerry Clarke of Wilton, CT; two daughters, Eileen Fudale of Norwalk, CT and Kathleen Clarke of Rye, NY; ten grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren."8

"Gerald Eugene Clarke, 78, a longtime resident of Wilton, CT and Port Chester, NY, passed away peacefully in his sleep at home on March 11, 2018. He was born March 4, 1940, to the late Hugh and Elizabeth Clarke . . . He is survived by his wife, Rosemarie (DiBuono); his children, Karen Driscoll and her husband Tim of Norwell, MA; Kathleen Clarke and her husband Curtis of Fairfield, CT; and Michael Clarke and his wife Heidi of Walpole, MA and his loving grandchildren, Elizabeth, Tom and Darcy Driscoll, Heather and Caroline Clarke and Andrew, Charlotte and William Clarke. Gerald is also survived by his brother, Donald Clarke, and his wife Muriel; his sister, Eileen Fudale, and her husband Lou; his sister Kathleen Clarke; and his many nieces and nephews."9

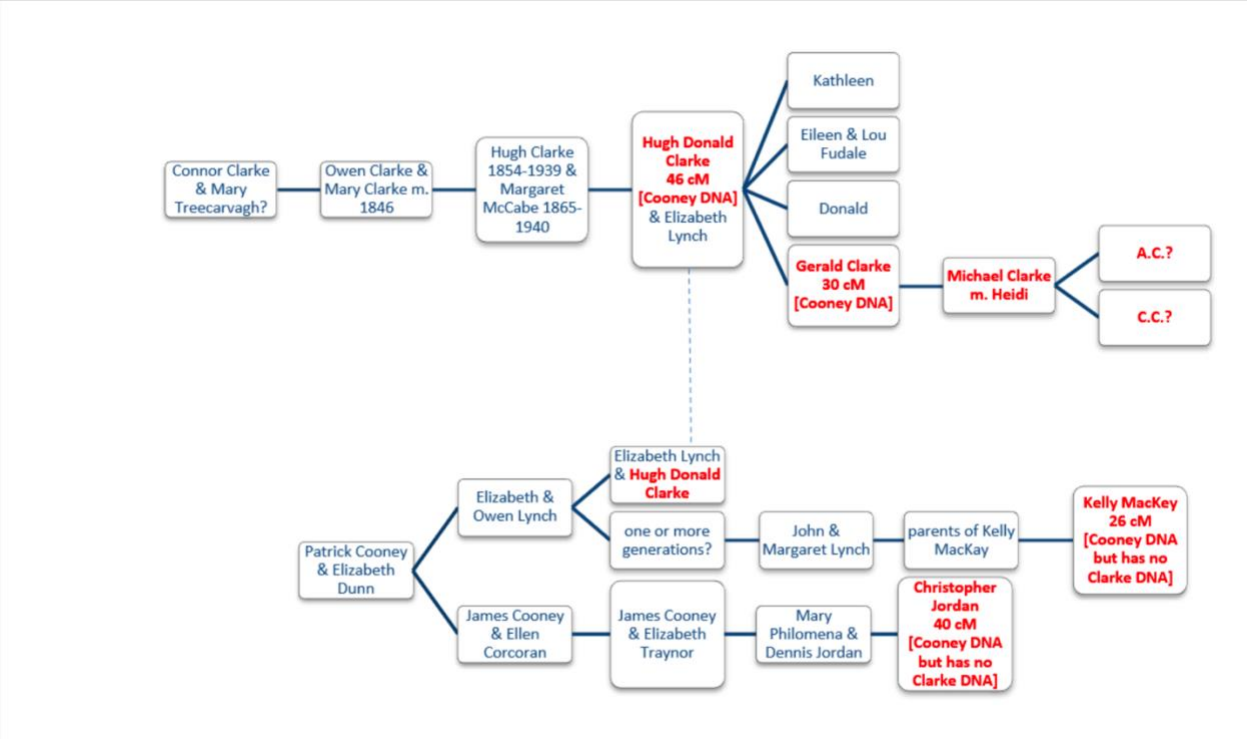
Christopher Jordan and the Clarke family matches share Cooney DNA with Janet.

These relationships can be seen in the following tree, with the DNA that matches Janet's highlighted in red.

The possibility this Cooney-Clark family is related to descendants of Patrick Devine and Rosanna Sheridan is supported by the following:

- We could not find any DNA in common between the Cooney-Clarke family and any of Janet's matches in the Laughlin McElmeel Cluster or Devine Cluster.
- You share 8 cM of Cooney DNA with Hugh Donald Clarke.

It also seems likely that Janet's match, Kelly MacKey, shares Cooney's DNA. The following visual representation suggests one hypothesis about how this is possible.


Connor Clarke & Mary Treecarvagh?
Owen Clarke & Mary Clarke m. 1846
Hugh Clarke 1854-1939 & Margaret McCabe 1865-1940
Hugh Donald Clarke 46 cM [Cooney DNA] & Elizabeth Lynch
Kathleen
Eileen & Lou Fudale
Donald
Gerald Clarke 30 cM [Cooney DNA]
Michael Clarke m. Heidi
A.C.?
C.C.?
Patrick Cooney & Elizabeth Dunn
Elizabeth & Owen Lynch
Elizabeth Lynch & Hugh Donald Clarke
one or more generations?
John & Margaret Lynch
parents of Kelly MacKay
Kelly MacKey 26 cM [Cooney DNA but has no Clarke DNA]
James Cooney & Ellen Corcoran
James Cooney & Elizabeth Traynor
Mary Philomena & Dennis Jordan
Christopher Jordan 40 cM [Cooney DNA but has no Clarke DNA]

More research is needed to understand exactly how this "Cooney" family is related to the descendants of Patrick Devine and Rosanna Sheridan. It is also important to consider that what we call Cooney DNA could also contain Dunn DNA from Patrick Cooney's wife, Elizabeth Dunn.

Other matches appear to belong to this Larah parish cluster of Cooney, Clarke, and Lynch family members. We created a new group in Janet's test called "Larah parish, Cavan—Cooney/Dunn DNA with Lynch & Clarke families" and identified at least four more matches that we assigned to this group. However, time did not allow us to research how they fit into the possible family structure illustrated above.

The amount of DNA in common between Janet and the Cooney/Dunn matches suggests a relationship at the generation level of Patrick Devine and Rosanna Sheridan or possibly the generation before them. It seems unlikely this Cooney or Dunn DNA is coming from Patrick Devine or his father. Based on previous research the Devine family was probably from the Balyna Catholic parish area in County Kildare or from nearby County Meath. This area is over 50 miles south of Carrickacroman, County Cavan.

It seems more likely that Patrick Devine's wife Rosanna Sheridan had Cooney or Dunn DNA. Little is known about Rosanna before she married Patrick in New Jersey. It is possible Rosanna was from Larah parish in County Cavan. Because of the amount of DNA shared between Janet and the Cooney/Dunn matches, it is possible Rosanna was not biologically a Sheridan. However, DNA is inherited randomly, and it is possible that her

mother was a Dunn. There is also a chance her grandparents were Cooney or Dunn family members.
Janet's match, Angi Velasquez, is a descendant of Rosanna Sheridan's son, Owen Farley, from her first marriage. Janet and Angi's shared matches include people you had previously assigned to the Clarke Cavan Cluster. This also supports the possibility that Rosanna was from the Larah parish in County Cavan.

Conclusion and Suggestions for Further Research
We were unable to learn more about your Devine ancestors but did identify a family cluster that is probably related in some way to Rosanna Sheridan the wife of Patrick Devine. This includes a Cooney/Dunn family and their Clarke and Lynch descendants.
This family has roots in Carrickacroman townland in Larah parish, County Cavan.
It is possible that Rosanna was not biologically a Sheridan, or her parents or grandparents were Cooney or Dunn family members. If you wish to learn more about these possibilities, we suggest the following research:
• Look at the other Cooney/Dunn AncestryDNA matches to determine how they fit into our identified family structure.
• Look at MyHeritage DNA results to determine if any Cooney/Dunn descendants exist in Janet's matches.
• Look at other Irish residents in Madison, Morris County, New Jersey, where Rosanna married Patrick Devine in 1848.
o Examine the Catholic church records where they married to learn the names of other Irish residents who may be their FAN (Family/Friends, Associates and Neighbors) Club.

o Locate the baptism records of their children William, Bridget and Rosanna, in New Jersey, to learn the names of their baptism sponsors, who may be other family members.